

Notice of Allowability

Applicati n No.

10/618,786

Examin r

Tina M Lin

Applicant(s)

TOURNE, JOSEPH A.A.M.

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. A bend mount for bending an optical fiber into the backplane of a circuit board, the bend mount comprising:
 - a base;
 - a cover connectable to the base in a closed position;
 - a first clamp formed by a first pair of opposed surfaces of the base and the cover, the first clamp being adapted to grip a ferrule portion of the optical fiber when the base and the cover are connected in the closed position; and
 - a second clamp formed by a second pair of opposed surfaces of the base and the cover, the second clamp being adapted to grip a non-ferrule portion of the optical fiber when the base and the cover are connected in the closed position,wherein the ferrule portion is held at a non-zero angle to the gripped non-ferrule portion when the base and the cover are connected in the closed position.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. A bend mount for bending an optical fiber into the backplane of a circuit board, the bend mount comprising:
 - a base;

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a cover connected to the base;
a first clamp formed by a first pair of opposed surfaces of the base and the cover,
the first clamp being adapted to grip a ferrule portion of the optical fiber; and
a second clamp formed by a second pair of opposed surfaces of the base and the
cover, the second clamp being adapted to grip a non-ferrule portion of the optical
fiber,
wherein the ferrule portion is held at a non-zero angle to the gripped non-ferrule
portion.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. A bend mount for bending an optical fiber into a backplane of a circuit board, the
bend mount comprising:
a base; and
a cover pivotally connected to the base such that the case and the cover are
movable to a closed position;
wherein opposed surfaces of the base and the cover form a clamp adapted to grip
a ferrule portion of the optical fiber when the cover and the base are in the closed
position and wherein the ferrule portion is held at a non-zero angle to a non-
ferrule portion of the optical fiber.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with
Mr. Nicholas D Rouse on 15 April 2004.

Examiner's Statement Of Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record in this application fails to disclose or reasonably suggest a bend mount for bending an optical fiber into the backplane of a circuit board where the bend mount comprises: a base, a cover connected to the base and two clamps formed by pairs of opposing surfaces, where the first clamp grips a ferrule portion of the optical fiber and the second clamp grips the non-ferrule portion of the optical fiber when the base and cover are closed. A close prior art of record is U.S. Patent 6,422,761 to Naghski et al. Naghski et al. discloses an angled optical connector with a base and cover, but Naghski et al. fails to disclose the two clamping structures where one clamp grips the ferrule and the other grips a non-ferrule part. Another close prior art of record is U.S. Patent 6,116,791 to Laninga et al. Laninga et al. discloses coupling an optical fiber at an angle on an optoelectric circuit board but again fails to disclose the specifics of the two clamping structures and the differences between the first and second clamping structure.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on 14 July 2003 have been considered and made of record. The documents submitted by Applicant and reviewed by the Examiner during the initial examination of the application fails to disclose or reasonably suggest the allowable subject matter discussed above.

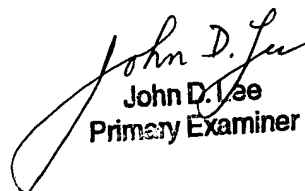
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tina M Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2352. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


TML


John D. Lee
Primary Examiner